

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) An exhaust-gas cleaning system, comprising:  
a nitrogen oxide reduction catalytic converter for reducing nitrogen oxides contained in an exhaust gas; and  
a reducing-agent metering device for metered addition of the reducing agent or a reducing-agent precursor to the exhaust gas,  
wherein said reducing-agent metering device comprises:  
a feed unit;  
a vaporizer arranged upstream of the nitrogen oxide reduction catalytic converter; and  
a heat source ~~selected from the group consisting of a heatable deflector surface~~ disposed in the exhaust gas, the heat source comprising a deflector plate, the deflector plate being oriented with its broad faces parallel to a direction of flow of the exhaust gas,  
wherein onto which the reducing agent is directed under pressure at a  
~~an angle~~ substantially perpendicular angle to onto one of the broad faces of the deflector plate surface or a microwave generator.
2. (canceled)
3. (currently amended) An exhaust-gas cleaning system according to Claim 1 2, wherein a surface of the baffle plate is arranged against an inside

surface of a pipe of the exhaust-gas cleaning system or is arranged in an interior of the pipe.

4. (currently amended) An exhaust-gas cleaning system according to Claim 1 2, wherein the exhaust gas flows through a main-flow exhaust system section, and the ~~heatable baffle~~ deflector plate is arranged in a part-flow branch line of the exhaust-gas cleaning system that branches off from the main-flow exhaust system section at a branching point and opens back into the main-flow exhaust system section downstream of the branching point.

5. (original) An exhaust-gas cleaning system according to Claim 1, further comprising two catalytic converter stages connected in series, wherein each catalytic converter stage has a different reducing-agent storage capacity and wherein at least one of the catalytic converter stages forms the nitrogen oxide reduction catalytic converter.

6. (original) A motor vehicle internal combustion engine comprising the exhaust-gas cleaning system according to Claim 1.

7. (withdrawn) A method for cleaning exhaust gas, comprising:  
guiding an exhaust gas containing nitrogen oxides through a main flow channel;  
injecting a reducing agent into the exhaust gas;

vaporizing the reducing agent;  
mixing the vaporized reducing agent and the exhaust gas;  
catalytically reducing the nitrogen oxides,  
wherein said vaporizing comprises heating the reducing agent by  
~~microwave radiation or by~~ spraying the reducing agent onto a heated deflector  
~~surface plate, the deflector place being oriented with its broad faces parallel to a~~  
direction of flow of the exhaust gas, and the reducing agent being sprayed at an  
angle substantially perpendicular to one of the broad faces of the deflector plate.

8. (withdrawn) A method according to Claim 7, wherein said vaporizing  
further comprises hydrolyzing urea to form gaseous ammonia and carbon  
monoxide.

9. (withdrawn) A method according to Claim 7, wherein said heated  
deflector plate surface further comprises a catalytically active coating.